

Message Text

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DRAFTED BY:S/S-O:RWINSTANLEY

APPROVED BY:S/S-O:GTWOHIE

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO SECDEF

CINCEUR

CNO

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 029159

EXDIS MILITARY ADDRESSEES HANDLE AS SPECAT EXCLUSIVE

FOLLOWING REPEAT BONN 2188 SENT ACTION SECSTATE INFO ROME

TEL AVIV NATO 07 FEB 75

QUOTE C O N F I D E N T I A L BONN 02188

EXDIS

DEPARTMENT PLEASE PASS TO SECDEF, CINCEUR, CNO

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS, IT, GW, US, IS

SUBJECT: POSSIBLE SALE OF PHM TO ISRAEL

REF: STATE 21540

1. THE FRG FONOFF, AFTER CHECKING WITH MINISTRY OF
DEFENSE, HAS GIVEN US THE FOLLOWING RESPONSE TO DEPART-
MENT'S REQUEST FOR CONFIRMATION THAT FEDERAL GOVERNMENT
HAS NO OBJECTION TO ISRAELI ASSOCIATION WITH THE PHM
PROGRAM:

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A. INQUIRIES WITH MOD HAVE SO FAR REVEALED NO AWARE-

NESS THERE OF ISRAELI INTERESTS IN PHM PROGRAM. A POSSIBLE EXPLANATION FOR STATEMENTS IN PERES-DOD LETTER IS THAT MINISTER LEBER GAVE HIS PERSONAL ASSURANCES ABOUT AGREEING TO ISRAELI PURCHASES WITHOUT INFORMING HIS SUBORDINATES. MOD PLANS TO RAISE SUBJECT WITH THE MINISTER ASAP BUT MAY NOT BE ABLE TO GET ANSWER BEFORE TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 11. (WE WILL REPORT FURTHER AS SOON AS WE HAVE A REPLY.)

B. IT IS THE VIEW OF THE FONOFF AND MOD THAT, SHOULD THE ISRAELIS MAKE A FORMAL REQUEST TO PURCHASE PATROL HYDROFOILS DEVELOPED IN THIS PROGRAM, IT WOULD REQUIRE THE AGREEMENT NOT ONLY OF THE THREE PARTICIPATING GOVERNMENTS BUT OF THE CONFERENCE OF NATIONAL ARMAMENTS DIRECTORS(CNAD), SINCE THE PROGRAM HAS BEEN CATEGORIZED AS A NATO PROJECT.

2. OUR CONTACT OBSERVED THAT THE PROGRAM WOULD HAVE TO BE LOOKED AT CAREFULLY FROM THE STANDPOINT OF ITS GERMAN-MADE COMPONENTS TO ENSURE THAT SALES TO ISRAEL WOULD NOT CONFLICT WITH THE FRG'S POLICY OF NOT SENDING CERTAIN TYPES OF "GENERAL MILITARY EQUIPMENT" TO AREAS OF TENSION. HILLENBRAND QUOTE KISSINGER

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NNN

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